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UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY

16 ang 62

WASHINGTON

CONFIDENTIAL Attachment

August 8, 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR:

The Honorable John A. McCone Central Intelligence Agency

I thought you would be interested in our latest June survey on the image of U.S. nuclear strength in Western Europe.

CONFIDENTIAL

The indication from USIA's latest June 1962 survey of West European public opinion is that even before the current large-scale Soviet bomb test the U.S. is predominantly seen as inferior to the Soviet Union in nuclear weapons.

The question was phrased as a comparison between the anti-Communist and Communist countries which, it may be surmised, makes the results even less favorable to the U.S. than indicated since British nuclear strength is thus added to the Western balance without any comparable addition to Soviet strength.

'How about military strength in nuclear weapons, are the anti-Communist or Communist countries ahead in nuclear weapons at the present time?"

No. of cases	Great Britain June '62 (647)	West Germany June '62 (620)	France June '62 (615)	Italy June '62 (672)
Anti-Communist countries	26%	32%	\$193.04	254
Communist countries	42	25	12%	23%
Neither			48	38
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	7	20	14	5
No opinion	25 100%	23	26	34
	100%	100%	100%	100%
Net Favorable	-16	7	-36	-15



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The anti-Communist position (and thus by inference U.S. standing) improves among those willing to forecast comparative nuclear strength ten years hence, but still attains a substantial favorable predominance only in West Germany.

"And which is likely /the anti-Communist or Communist countries to be ahead in nuclear weapons 10 years hence?"

No. of cases	Great Britain June 62 (647)	Germany June'62 (620)	France June 62 (615)	Italy June 162 (672)
Anti-Communist countries	29%	37%	13%	21%
Communist countries	24	10	16	19
Neither	9	14	15	5
No opinion	38	<u>39</u>	56	55
	100%	100%	100%	100%
Net Favorable	5	37	-3	2

